UCLA Faculty Association

News and opinion from Dan Mitchell since 2009

Thursday, May 2, 2024

The times, they are a'changing - Part 2



We have previously blogged about the gradual conversion of college sports to a more professional model.* Here is yet another sign of the times from CBS Sports:

The SEC and Big Ten are at the center of developing a revenue sharing plan with players that would redefine college athletics for the future, CBS Sports has learned. The still unrefined proposal -- currently utilizing the name "Modern Model" -- would not only share revenue with players but also perhaps help settle the House v. NCAA lawsuit that goes to trial in January 2025. The antitrust lawsuit is a class-action complaint alleging the NCAA and power conferences have conspired to suppress athletes' compensation.

The lawsuit continues to be the top hurdle for programs in planning college athletics' future. Settlement money alone could cost universities between $15 million and $20 million. Athletic directors have been frustrated trying to figure out how to rearrange their budgets or otherwise account for a payment of that size.

ESPN reported Monday night that the Power Four conferences are in "deep discussions" regarding a revenue sharing plan. It is not clear where that revenue would come from or how it would be distributed.

The Council of UC Faculty Associations

- FAQs for Senate Faculty about Possible Strike by UAW May 2024
- CUCFA Statement On Campus Protests
- We Support BOARS Math Requirements Recommendation
- Support AB-2349 – The Cal-Bridge Program
- Drop the Charges Against January Regents' Meeting Protestors

Remaking the University

- The Authoritarian Personality Comes to College - 5/2/2024
- The New McCarthyism Intensifies - 4/30/2024
- THE STRIKE - 12/6/2022

Higher Ed. News & Commentary

- Chronicle of Higher Education
- Inside Higher Education
- Remaking the University
- Changing Universities
- California Professor

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Sources told CBS Sports the revenue-sharing idea emerged from ongoing talks between Power Four administrators. In February, the SEC and Big Ten announced a joint advisory group to address the future of college athletics...

Full story at https://www.cbssports.com/college-football/news/sec-big-ten-developing-plan-to-share-revenue-with-players-in-potential-landmark-change-to-college-athletics/.

Note that UCLA is joining the Big Ten.

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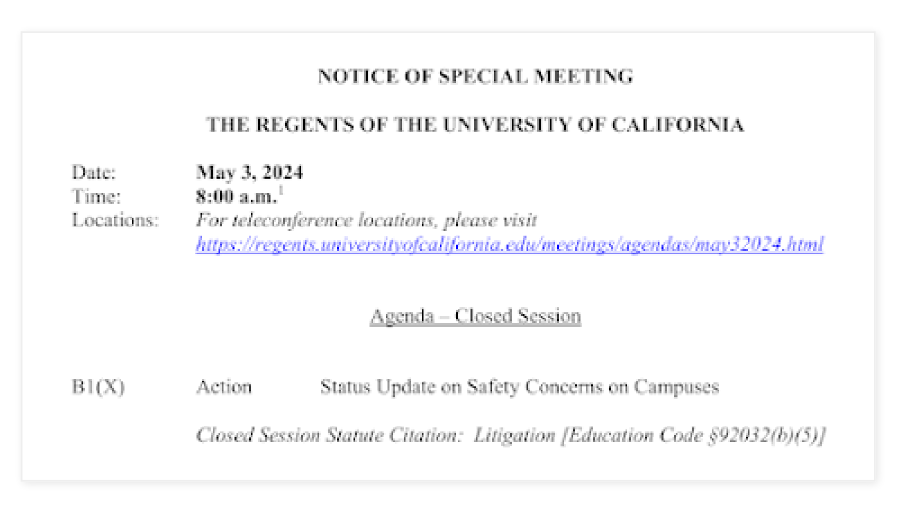
*https://uclafacultyassociation.blogspot.com/2024/04/the-times-they-are-achanging.html.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 5:00 AM No comments:

Labels: athletics, UCLA

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Another emergency Regents meeting on Friday - Update


NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Date: **May 3, 2024**
Time: **8:00 a.m.**[1]
Locations: *For teleconference locations, please visit https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/meetings/agendas/may32024.html*

Agenda – Closed Session

B1(X) Action Status Update on Safety Concerns on Campuses

Closed Session Statute Citation: Litigation [Education Code §92032(b)(5)]

There are now more teleconference locations listed (so more participants):

3333 North Torrey Pines Ct, La Jolla, CA
433 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA [UCLA's new office building downtown]
12011 San Vicente Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA
550 S Hope Street, Los Angeles, CA
1680 East 120th Street, Los Angeles, CA
4751 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA
433 Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA
3200 Sawtelle Boulevard, Los Angeles
4129 Cheadle Hall, Santa Barbara, CA

Search

UC Faculty Associations

- UCLA Faculty Association
- UCSB Faculty Association
- UCSC Faculty Association
- UCB Faculty Association
- Council of UC Faculty Associations

Other Faculty Organizations

- American Association of University Professors
- California Faculty Association (NEA)
- UC-AFT

Topics

UC (1822) politics (1723) UC Regents (1709) health care (1281) State Budget (1191) governor (1046) UC budget crisis (909) UC-Berkeley (828) pension (639) diversity (620) pensions (588) tuition (518) admissions (485) athletics (439) CSU (377) transportation (363) UC-Davis (352) online education (333) ucrp (293) audio (287) UCOP (282) new hotel-conference center (281) UC enrollment (267) uc retirement (265) traffic (259) enrollment (239) UC-San Diego (227) community colleges (221) LAO (201) UC-Irvine (171) fund raising (154) UC-Santa Barbara (138) UC-Santa Cruz (133) ballot

465 California Street, San Francisco, CA
335 Powell Street, San Francisco, CA
288 Golf Course Drive, Rohnert Park, CA
1111 Franklin Street, Oakland, CA
400 Q Street, Sacramento, CA
1130 K Street, Sacramento, CA
5200 Lake Road, Merced, CA
5025 Thacher Road Ojai, California, 93023
6374 Coral del Rico, Nayarit, Mexico

Source: https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/meetings/agendas/may32024.html.

This meeting appears to have more participants than the emergency meeting on Wednesday. There is no real agenda provided. Possibly, one topic could be establishing a commission to study what went wrong at UCLA which UC President Drake said he favors.

And the Regents may reflect on this item:



Federated University Police Officers' Association

Federated University Police Officers' Association Statement on Response to Campus Violence

May 1, 2024 - The Federated University Police Officers' Association ("FUPOA") issued the following statement regarding the campus police response to the violence we witnessed at the encampments.

The officers of the ten UC Police Departments are obligated to follow the direction of the leadership of the various campuses. We welcome the upcoming probe by UC President Michael Drake into the "university's planning, its actions and the response by law enforcement."

In the University of California system, the Police Departments on each campus are entrusted with the critical responsibility of maintaining law and order. However, it's paramount to recognize that when protests erupt on campus, the decisions regarding the response of the UC Police rest firmly in the hands of campus leadership. They shoulder the accountability for the outcomes stemming from these decisions, not the UC Police Department. It underscores the crucial distinction between operational execution and strategic direction. The campus leadership, not law enforcement, owns the results of their decisions.

www.fupoa.org

Posted by California Policy Issues at 7:06 PM No comments:

Labels: Drake, UC Regents, UCLA

propositions (132) faculty center (132) controller (128) UC-Riverside (126) UC-San Francisco (126) CalPERS (120) Master Plan (99) faculty pay (99) UC-Merced (96) Yudof (89) UCRS retirement (60) privatization (59) parking (57) Faculty Association at UCLA (56) CalSTRS (50) UC Berkeley (32) campus climate survey (28) copyright (25) UCRS (21) Michigan Model (18) UC Merced (17) uc funding (16) State Contribution (14) UCOF (14) Regents (13) faculty recruitment (12) UC pay (7) graduate education (6) UC San Diego (5) UCpolitics (3) teaching evaluation (3) UC Irvine (2) UC Santa Cruz (2)

Blog Archive

▼ 2024 (426)
▼ July (1)
The Berkeley Clarification
► June (72)
► May (87)
► April (63)
► March (66)
► February (68)
► January (69)
► 2023 (828)
► 2022 (719)
► 2021 (710)
► 2020 (914)
► 2019 (671)
► 2018 (595)
► 2017 (666)
► 2016 (715)
► 2015 (765)
► 2014 (704)
► 2013 (776)

Absent a Plan, We Need an Interim Administration



Yesterday, before the violence, UC President Drake issued the statement below:

April 30, 2024

A statement from UC President Michael V. Drake, M.D., on free speech and campus protests:

The University has a long and proud history of supporting freedom of speech and First Amendment rights. We readily accept our obligation to protect the rights of our students, faculty, staff and visitors to our campuses. The right to protest and demonstrate against policies and practices of governing authorities is among the most important privileges of a democracy. This right is not, however, absolute. We must exercise our rights within the broad confines of the laws and policies we ourselves have established.

Earlier today, the UCLA campus sent out a message for those in the UCLA encampment informing them that the encampment is unlawful and violates university policy.

I fully support the campus in taking this step. The University of California must be as flexible as it can involving matters of free expression, including expression of viewpoints that some find deeply offensive. But when that expression blocks the ability of students to learn or to express their own viewpoints, when it meaningfully disrupts the functioning of the University, or when it threatens the safety of students, or anyone else, we must act.

There are countless ways to protest lawfully, and the University of California campuses will work with students, faculty and staff to make space available and do all we can to protect these protests and demonstrations. But disruptive unlawful protests that violate the rights of our fellow citizens are unacceptable and cannot be tolerated.

Source: https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/press-room/statement-uc-president-michael-v-drake-md-free-speech-and-campus-protests.

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If the current administration cannot "act," the next line of authority is the UC president and the Regents.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 1:23 PM No comments:

- ▶ 2012 (839)
- ▶ 2011 (738)
- ▶ 2010 (431)
- ▶ 2009 (12)

Contributors

- California Policy Issues
- Toby Higbie
- UCLA Faculty Association

Labels: Drake, UC Regents, UCLA

TV Video confirms no police for an extended period



Reporter: "Where is authority?"



The latest BruinAlert:

Due to the distress caused by the violence that took place on Royce Quad late last night and early this morning, all classes are cancelled today.

The hospital and health system, the Luskin Conference Center, and PreK-12 schools remain open. Please avoid the Royce Quad area.

Royce Hall remains closed through Friday, and students should watch for notifications from their instructors with information about class locations when classes resume. Powell Library is also closed and is scheduled to reopen on Monday. We have law enforcement presence stationed throughout campus to help promote safety. Student Affairs will have essential staff on campus to support our students who have been impacted by this tragedy.

For more information about emergencies at UCLA, please visit https://bso.ucla.edu/.

Excerpt from the LA Times:

...A group of security guards could be seen observing the clashes but did not move in to stop them. One representative of the camp said the counterdemonstrators repeatedly pushed over the barricades that outline the boundaries of the encampment, and some campers said they were hit by a substance they thought was pepper spray.

Some people in the camp were being treated for eye irritation and other wounds. The extent of the injuries was unclear, though The Times saw several people who were bleeding and needed medical attention. UCLA officials decried the violence and said they had requested help from the Los Angeles Police Department.

"Horrific acts of violence occurred at the encampment tonight and we immediately called law enforcement for mutual aid support. The fire department and medical personnel are on the scene. We are sickened by this senseless violence and it must end," Mary Osako, vice chancellor for UCLA Strategic Communications, said in a statement.

At around 1:40 a.m., police officers in riot gear arrived, and some counterprotesters began to leave. But the police did not immediately break up the clashes at the camp, which continued despite the law enforcement presence...

Source: https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-04-30/ucla-moves-to-shut-down-pro-palestinian-encampment-as-unlawful.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 8:08 AM No comments:

Labels: UCLA

Another emergency meeting of the Regents



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3333 North Torrey Pines Ct, La Jolla, CA
433 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA [UCLA's new downtown office building]
465 California Street, Suite 611, San Francisco, CA
5025 Thacher Road Ojai, California, 93023

Source: https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/regmeet/may24/special5.3.pdf.

There is no agenda posted, but the reason for this sudden meeting is evident.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 7:41 AM No comments:    

Labels: UC Regents, UCLA

Chaos invites chaos



The ticking time bomb created by an escalating situation at the encampment went off. UCLA managed to outdo Columbia by leaving a chaotic situation in place. The encampment, *per se*, could have been a peaceful means of protest had it not blocked access to public areas and buildings. As we noted in an earlier post, the idea that you could just run the clock and nothing bad would happen was conceivable at Berkeley with its semester coming to an end. But as we noted, UCLA is on a quarter system which ends in mid-June. Running the clock was not a likely option for UCLA.*

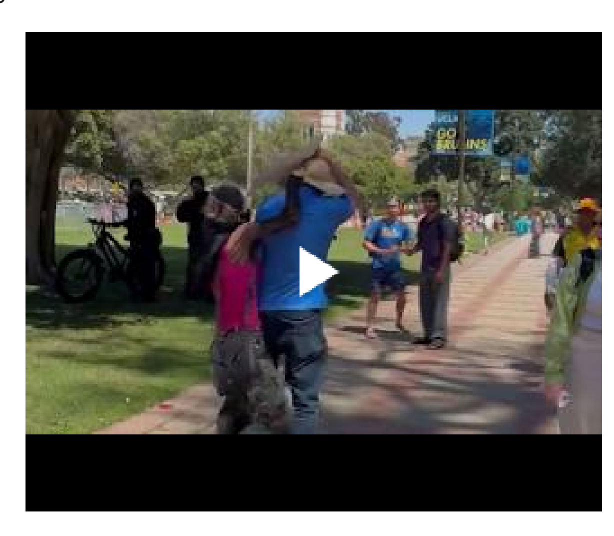


If you looked at social media (as opposed to anonymous BruinAlerts), you could see the escalating incidents. Outsiders representing who-knows-what began to appear, as the image here illustrates.

Incidents were reported through tweets and other social media as well as conventional TV news. Those who complained about incidents to the UCLA police were explicitly told that higher ups had decided not to take any action.

In particular, it was reported that ultimately there was no enforcement of basic university rules and legal obligations of the university. That type of atmosphere invites bad actors.

Here (below) is a random tweet video related to the situation at UCLA recorded yesterday, i.e., well before last night's debacle:



So, anyone on social media could learn that what you had is a chaotic situation at UCLA in which individuals or groups could get away with anything with no consequences. What do you think that kind of atmosphere invites?

End of Rant.

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*https://uclafacultyassociation.blogspot.com/2024/04/who-is-we.html; https://uclafacultyassociation.blogspot.com/2024/04/waiting-it-out.html.

At last, a message has come - too late



Late delivery

It's been several days overdue, but a message from the chancellor has arrived. Unfortunately, it came too late and without adequate police presence:

Chancellor Block shared the following message with the Bruin community*.*

Dear Bruin Community:

This past Thursday, a group of demonstrators — both members of the UCLA community and others unaffiliated with our campus — established an unauthorized physical encampment on part of Royce Quad, joining those who have set up similar presences at universities around the country.

Many of the demonstrators, as well as counter-demonstrators who have come to the area, have been peaceful in their activism. But the tactics of others have frankly been shocking and shameful. We have seen instances of violence completely at odds with our values as an institution dedicated to respect and mutual understanding. In other cases, students on their way to class have been physically blocked from accessing parts of the campus.

UCLA supports peaceful protest, but not activism that harms our ability to carry out our academic mission and makes people in our community feel bullied, threatened and afraid. These incidents have put many on our campus, especially our Jewish students, in a state of anxiety and fear.

In response, we have taken several immediate actions. We have significantly increased our security presence in the area, including adding greater numbers of law enforcement officers, safety personnel and student affairs mitigators. We have also engaged law enforcement to investigate the recent acts of violence.

The barriers that demonstrators used to block access to buildings have been removed, and we have staff located around Royce Quad to help ensure that they will not go up again. With regard to these incidents, our student conduct process has been initiated, and could lead to disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion.

We continue to encourage anyone who experiences discrimination to report it to our Civil Rights Office. If you feel you are in danger, contact UCPD.

I recognize that the suffering in the Middle East has had a profound impact on our campus, and we continue to hope for a peaceful resolution. While Bruins hold a variety of perspectives on this conflict, we must all protect the wellbeing of our peers and maintain an environment safe for learning. This is a commitment I call on our community to uphold as we navigate the weeks ahead.

Sincerely,

Gene D. Block, Chancellor

Source: https://chancellor.ucla.edu/messages/affirming-our-values-in-a-challenging-time/.

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And there is this from yesterday:

BruinALERT: **Access to Royce Hall is now closed through Friday**. Alternate locations are being identified as options for classes taking place in Royce. Instructors will inform students about further information regarding class location. Faculty should reach out to their departments for possible classroom reassignments.

Powell Library will close at 5 p.m. today, Tuesday, and reopen on Monday. Other library spaces across campus remain open at their regular hours. Alternative study spaces are available via UCLA Library.

Non-academic staff who usually work in these buildings should plan to work remotely.

Student affairs representatives, along with signage, are stationed near Royce Quad to let Bruins and visitors know about the encampment and closed buildings, redirect them if desired and serve as a resource for their needs. We have also enhanced security measures and increased the numbers of our safety team members on site, including our uniformed Student Affairs Mitigators (SAMs), Public Safety Aides (PSAs), CSC and law enforcement officers.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 5:30 AM No comments:

Labels: UCLA

May Retirement Webinars

Here is a list of webinars for the month of May giving an overview of retirement benefits offered by UC. The webinars cover primary benefits (Pension/Choice) that provide a foundation for retirement income and voluntary benefits that offer additional savings opportunities [403(b), 457(b) and DC plans].

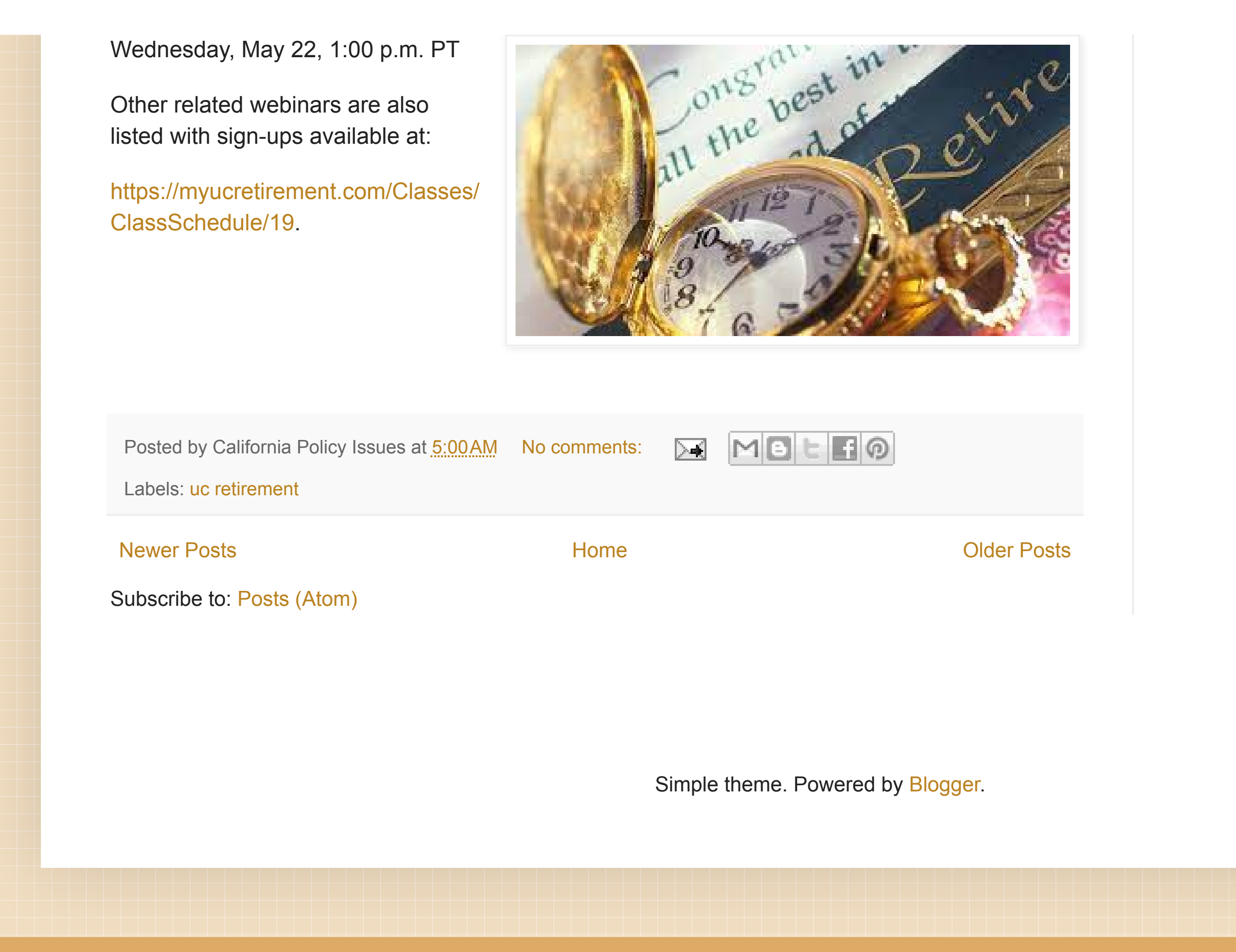
Tuesday, May 7, 9:00 a.m. PT

Wednesday, May 15, noon PT

Wednesday, May 22, 1:00 p.m. PT

Other related webinars are also listed with sign-ups available at:

https://myucretirement.com/Classes/ClassSchedule/19.



Posted by California Policy Issues at 5:00 AM No comments:

Labels: uc retirement

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